

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

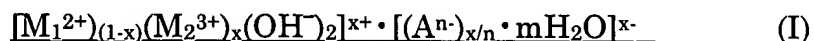
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (canceled).

B Claim 2 (currently amended): A tire reinforcing member comprising:

- (a) at least one composite layer comprising a coating rubber composition and steel cords, and
- (b) at least one squeegee rubber composition layer comprising a rubber composition, which adjoins to the composite layer,

wherein a basic inorganic filler being is compounded into the squeegee rubber composition layer in an amount of 0.1 to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the rubber component of the squeegee rubber composition, wherein the basic inorganic filler is a hydrotalcite mineral represented by the following Formula (I) or a calcined product thereof:



wherein M_1^{2+} is a divalent metal cation, M_2^{3+} is a trivalent metal cation, A^{n-} is an n-valent anion, x is the number satisfying an equation $0 < x < 0.5$, and m is zero or a positive number.

Claims 3-10 (canceled).

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No.: 09/832,825

Claim 11 (original): A pneumatic tire reinforced with the tire reinforcing member as defined in claim 2.

Claim 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (original): The pneumatic tire according to claim 11, wherein the reinforcing member constitutes at least one of a carcass ply and a belt ply.

Claim 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (original): The pneumatic tire according to claim 11, which is a large-sized off-road vehicle tire.

Claim 16 (new): The tire reinforcing member according to Claim 2, wherein the hydrotalcite mineral is a calcined product having the crystal-water removed.

Claim 17 (new): A pneumatic tire reinforced with the tire reinforcing member defined in Claim 2, wherein the reinforcing member constitutes at least one of a carcass ply and a belt ply, and wherein the pneumatic tire is at least one of a truck tire, a bus tire and an off-road tire.

Claim 18 (new): A pneumatic tire reinforced with the tire reinforcing member defined in Claim 16, wherein the reinforcing member constitutes at least one of a carcass ply and a belt ply, and wherein the pneumatic tire is at least one of a truck tire, a bus tire and an off-road tire.
